

# St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church

Pastor's Annual Conference Year Report 1995-1996



*Thanks be to God who  
gives us the victory . . .*

**Thanks be to God who gives us the victory and the privilege of presenting this my twelfth accounting of my stewardship as the undershepherd to the people of God known as St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church found in the portion of God's kingdom known as Newark, New Jersey. I am grateful and humbled before God who has truly done so much in my life and in the lives of the people of St. James that I cannot tell it all. Thus my report continues to be a prayer of thanksgiving.**

## ***Our Vision***

**Kingdom Building Through Salvation, Stewardship, Spirituality and Service**

## ***Our Mission Statement***

**As the redeemed people of God called Church, our mission is to proclaim the good news of salvation for the winning of souls to Christ through dynamic worship, planned evangelistic efforts, individual witnessing, education, and social outreach.**

**We believe salvation must include the Lordship of Jesus Christ over our time, talents, tithes and offerings.**

## ***Our Strategic Initiatives***

**Evangelism** - Prayer and Witnessing - Matthew 28:16-20

**Stewardship** - Managing our resources - Malachi 3:8-10

**Youth** -Developing our young people -Proverbs 22:6, Ecclesiastes 12:1

**Education** - Imparting and acquiring knowledge - Proverbs 2:6-11

**Outreach** - Spreading our ministries - Matthew 25:31-46

**Program Quality** - Giving of our best to the Master - I Corinthians 12:4-11

## ***St. James Corporations***

**St. James A. M. E. Church**

**St. James A. M. E. Federal Credit Union**

**St. James Preparatory School**

**St. James Towers (housing)**

**St. James A. M. E. Social Services**

**St. James Tower Shop**

**Thanks be to God who gives us the victory....**

## ***Evangelism***

**354 persons confessed Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord**

**Wednesday "Sweet Hour of Praise" services average between 600 to 700 worshippers every week**

**Saturday Night Special "come as you are" praise service ministers to those who are unable to attend regular Sunday worship services**

**116 Prayer teams established within the Church**

**Storm Troops Against Satan (STAS) - street ministry and witnessing teams**

**Our fall revival was concluded at Newark Symphony Hall to accommodate week long overflow crowds. Friday night's attendance exceeded 2,000 persons**

**Media Ministries (Sunday radio broadcast, video and cassette tapes) continue to propagate the love and saving grace of our master**

**Dance Ministries - adults and young people praising God through liturgical dance**

**5 new daughters in the Ministry - Cecelia Greene, Natasha Johnson, Teresa Rushdan, Darlene Reynolds, and Deborah Richardson**

**Two new seminary interns - Peter Matthews and Valerie Pyles**

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## ***Stewardship***

**\$1,267,534 raised through tithes, offerings and other donations of which \$328,729 went towards the building of the St. James Preparatory School and Family Development Center, Summer Youth Camp, and Child Assault Prevention (CAP)**

**17 full and part-time employees and 22 summer jobs**

**St. James AME Federal Credit Union**

- 50 years of personal, dedicated service
- Over \$1,125,000 in Assets
- Over \$10 million loaned to members over the past fifty years
- Services offered are auto loans, personal loans, and educational loans

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## ***Youth***

**38 young people actively participate in Friday night Hip-hop Bible study to openly discuss common biblical and social themes**

**147 young people attend NYAME Saturday School - an interactive, contemporary worship service for children 5 to 12 years old**

**Intergenerational After School Program bridges the gap between our senior members and our young people in an academic environment**

**A staff of 22 professional teachers, assistants, and ministers conducted a 6-week Summer Camp for 100 children. The camp provided a safe environment for spiritual, social and academic development**

**Bro. Matthew Watley was elected Connectional President of the Young People's Division, Women's Missionary Society of the African Methodist Episcopal Church**

**The YPD, Sunday School, Boys and Girls Scouting continue to help our young people build solid spiritual, social and moral foundations**

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## ***Education***

**Plans for the construction of the St. James Preparatory School and Family Development Center are in their final stages**

**Bible Institute offers courses in religious studies and Christian living to deepen our understanding of the word of God**

**New Life Ministries - 14 week study program for new converts, as well as existing members who desire to strengthen their life in Christ and learn more about the AME Church**

**Men's Bible Study - vibrant Saturday morning study and discussion of contemporary and spiritual issues (weekly average of 50 or more)**

**Women's Bible Study - Tuesday evening study and discussions providing spiritual and relevant social instructions for today's African American woman**

**General Bible Study - mid-week study available to all**

**Literary Society explores the works of African American writers**

Thanks be to God who gives us the victory....

## *Outreach*

220 housing units provided by St. James Towers

200 food baskets and dinners served on Thanksgiving Day

\$13,000 raised in two weeks for the "Be a Blessing Campaign" which provided 2,500 toys and 400 food baskets for those in need in the community at Christmas

29,443 meals served from our soup kitchen (Monday to Friday), 112 persons referred to emergency shelters and food pantries, and clothes were distributed to those in need

9 adults and 8 juveniles provided 2,873 service hours in cooperation with the Essex County Probation Department

10,769 children, 987 teachers, and 426 parents participated in workshops sponsored by St. James A.M.E./Newark Child Assault Prevention Program (CAP). The CAP program teaches children how to recognize and protect themselves against various types of assault

297 persons with substance abuse/addiction problems referred and transported to detoxification and rehabilitation centers. Regular meeting place for Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, and Friends of Lifers

\$9,450 was given to various Churches within the Connectional A.M.E. Church and \$600 to the Rosetta Lee A.M.E. School - Port-au-Prince, Haiti

32 persons participated in a pilgrimage to South Africa; \$1,500 was given to the Glen Heatlie A.M.E. Primary School in D Wett; \$1,000 was given to each of the 14th and 19th Episcopal Districts; \$500 to Bethel A.M.E. in Soweto; subsequently 8 barrels of clothing for infants and children, shoes and black dolls have been collected for these projects

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## *Projections*

- ♦ *Construction of the St. James Preparatory School and Family Development Center*
- ♦ *Increase membership by 400*
- ♦ *Increase the number of prayer teams threefold*
- ♦ *Increase tithing by 30%*
- ♦ *Implement leadership training for church leaders*



# St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church

## Pastor's Annual Report 1995-1996

Episcopal District  
Annual Conference  
Name of Church  
Address of Church  
Conference Opening Date

First  
New Jersey  
St. James AME Church  
588 M. L. King Jr. Blvd.  
March 18, 1996

Presiding Bishop  
Presiding Elder District  
Pastor's Name  
Pastor's Address  
Presiding Elder

Philip R. Cousin  
Newark  
William D. Watley  
3 Merrywood Dr., W. Orange  
Archie Richmond

### NUMERICAL STATISTICS

1. Conversions	152
2. Accessions	354
3. Baptisms	
A. Adults	11
B. Youth	
C. Children	34
D. Retirees	
Total	45
4. Full Members	
A. Adults	1525
B. Youth	400
C. Children	600
D. Retirees	500
Total	3025
5. Church School Membership	
A. Teachers/Officers	26
B. Cradle Roll	55
C. Children	150
D. Youth	110
E. Adults	70
Total	411
6. Annual Conference Members	
A. Itinerant Elders/Deacons	7
B. Local Elders/Deacons	2
C. Evangelist/Missionary	113
D. Retired Elders/Deacons	1
E. Licentiates	10
F. Supernumerary	6
Total	139
7. Registered Voters	2000
8. Widow(er) Children Under 14	0
9. Marriages Performed	14
10. Lay Organizations	1
A. Number of Members	55
11. Community Projects, Funded by	
Outside Sources (e.g., child care, senior citizen housing, etc.)	3

### FINANCIAL STATISTICS

#### REVENUES

1. General Offerings	\$676,058
2. Sunday School	500
3. Auxiliaries	15,479
4. Investment Income	2,656
5. Building Fund	201,400
6. Special Events	179,938
7. Special Activity	64,174
8. Other	127,329
9. Total	1,267,534

#### EXPENDITURES

10. Supplies and Expenses	86,805
11. Parsonage Expenses	18,436
12. Conference Assessment	42,290
13. Other Operating Expenses	913,116
14. Elder's salary/Upkeep	9,600
15. Mortgage Payments	
A. Church	86,119
B. Parsonage	45,660
16. Total	1,202,026

#### ASSETS

17. Cash in Bank Accounts	69,843
18. Investments	43,177
19. Church Building	
Year built, 1890	
A. Cost	2,080,720
B. Improvements	685,475
20. Other Properties	550,000
21. Total Assets	3,429,215

#### LIABILITIES

22. Mortgage Balances	
A. Church	230,000
B. Parsonage	253,063
23. Notes and Loans Payable	
A. Due to Banks	31,205
B. Due on Auto Notes	11,348
C. Due on Equipment	0
D. Due to Members	0
24. Accounts Payable	9,746
25. Total Liabilities	535,362